

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER

VOLUME IX.

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1915

NUMBER 10

IT HAS THE RING AND VIGOR OF A TRUE AMERICAN STATE DOCUMENT

President Wilson Couches His Message In Words That All Understand

And There is at No Point a Question as to What He Means

The full text of President Wilson's message to congress, delivered Tuesday, has by this time (or should have) been read by every citizen of the United States. It was published in its entirety by the daily press of this country, and it cannot help but commend itself to Americans without regard to party, as it is in itself a patriotic state document. It speaks his sentiments fearlessly and voices his ideas eloquently. As he himself interprets it, it is devoted to "the single thought of national efficiency and security." In his development of that thought to cover the far-flung sweep of the Monroe doctrine, his utterances are of more than noteworthy importance.

As the president would, under the conditions that now at this new day prevail, apply the Monroe doctrine, it no longer constitutes the United States as the self-chosen guardian of the republics of South and Central America. It implies rather, "a full and honorable association as of partners between ourselves and our neighbors, in the interest of all America, north and south." It leaves all the governments of both Americas standing "upon a footing of genuine equality and unquestioned independence." They are to be "a unit in world affairs, spiritual partners," as the exponents of "Pan-Americanism"—of "the spirit of law and independence and liberty and mutual service." For all time, whatever the outcome of this and future wars and upheavals in other parts of the world, the United States and its sister governments of the new world must stand for America for the Americas—for a hemisphere dedicated to and preserved for liberty and democracy.

The Perils That Threaten
President Wilson unquestionably foresees, as must all thoughtful men, the latent perils that threaten the western world from Europe and from the Orient. In the east and in the west alike great monarchies and absolutisms are contending fiercely for wider places in the sun, for broader spheres of influence, for dominance over the weaker peoples. It is such contention that brought on the present war. At the conclusion of the war, whatever may be its outcome, more than ever before the broad and fertile and undeveloped spaces of both Americas will appeal to the greed of the world. There will be greedy winners as well as greedy losers. And in all the world there promises to be no friend of the United States, of South and Central America, to stand up and fight their battles for them. If anyone is to say "Hands off!" and say it effectively, we must be prepared to say it for ourselves.

Nowhere today—and it promises to be true for many tomorrows—is there among the great and powerful nations one that is disposed to take a sympathetic and friendly interest in the welfare of this republic, much less to stand with us, shoulder to shoulder, to make the Monroe doctrine a tenet of international law. Our salvation is in ourselves and outside ourselves there is none. If European politics, if Asiatic politics, are not to be transplanted to American soil, there to sow their crops of dragons' teeth, the American republic must be prepared to assert the rights of a people against aggression.

UNCLE JOHN'S ADVICE

Oh, Billy, you remember well when Teddy saw the track, an' ran so fast an' far an' long that he never can come back. He tore his party into bits an' then went on the blink—an' now you've went an' jumped the fence, O Billy, stop an' think! We can't afford to lose you now—you can't afford to go; take warnin', Billy, how Teddy done—it's awful, but it's so

And therefore it is that President Wilson preaches preparedness. It is not the preparedness of militarism he advocates. "We will not maintain," he says, "a standing army except for uses which are necessary in times of peace as in times of war; and we shall always see to it that our military peace establishment is no larger than is actually and continuously needed for the uses of days in which no enemies move against us. But we do believe in a body of free citizens ready and sufficient to take care of themselves and of the government which they have set up to serve them." Therefore he advocates a citizen soldiery of 400,000 men who, without withdrawal from their peaceful pursuits, shall be trained in the duties of war—"to make their independence secure—and not their own independence merely, but the rights also of those with whom they have made common cause."

With this reasonable degree of preparedness should go a development of the navy, "our first and chief line of defense," because it is "our manifest course of prudence to be strong on the seas."

To Prepare for Peace
On the question of future peace the president makes it clear that the best way to prepare for war—and against war—is to prepare for peace. We must make our nation strong, he says, "by placing it on the solid foundation of social and industrial strength. There must be a wider and more equitable distribution of the fruits of peace among our people. There must be development of our untouched resources for the benefit of all. Not only must our foreign commerce be encouraged and extended, particularly with South America, but there should be a general and scientific survey of our domestic transportation system, to the end that there may be a bettering of the conditions under which the railroads are operated."

As To Hyphenized Americans
But when he comes to dealing with the question of those American citizens who show by their activities and speech a deeper interest in the welfare of foreign lands than of our own, does the language of the president become most vigorous, caustic and strong. Nor does he confine it to the naturalized citizens "misled by mistaken sentiments of allegiance to the governments under which they were born." He excommunicates, with equal severity, Americans born and bred, some living at home and others now living in Europe, who put their sympathy with this belligerent or that "above their regard for the peace and dignity of the United States." "They also preach and practice disloyalty," and unquestionably he is right in saying that it is from these various sources within our own borders that there spring "the gravest threats against our national peace and safety."

There is no peril threatening the United States so sinister and ominous as would be the division of our own people against each other along the lines of European politics and European interests. Our welfare, our national security, our very existence, depend on the love and loyalty of our own people for their own country. It is to preserve this and protect it that the studious neutrality for which the president pleads is imperative.

Don't abdicate your solemn vows like some poor common sinner. For goodness' sake, be keener, Bill, take time to stop an' think! Don't skate too far—the ice is thin, an' the water's awful cold; these 'nuthin' in de-campin', Bill, an' wanderin' from the fold. Don't say too much nor start no row to draw as o'er the brim. Remember, tailholts ain't too safe—Oh, Billy, stop an' think! —Excelsior Springs Standard

MONROE CLUB OFFICERS WILL NOMINATE WILSON

The Newly Elected Officers and Directors Were Installed Thursday Night—Plans Formulated

If the notion has seized anyone that the Monroe club will not be in the running the coming city, state and presidential campaigns, it will be well to become disillusioned at once—for the club will be in it with both feet, to use a homely expression. And the fact that it is alive and up-to-date was manifestly manifested at the meeting held in the club rooms Thursday night to install the new officers and directors and to plan for the club's future.

The great assembly hall was crowded to its fullest capacity and every Democrat present was jubilant over the achievements recorded and the future prospects.

George W. Akers, the retiring president, who has so successfully conducted the affairs of the club for the past term, called the meeting to order and in well chosen words introduced the new president, Louis V. Stigall, who was given an ovation. In assuming the chair, President Stigall made a remarkable presentation of the past glorious record of the club and in a business like manner gave his ideas for its future course. So well were his suggestions received that they will be printed later and used as a campaign document.

He was followed by Herbert Feilley, and Richard Duncan, and they by L. C. Gabbert, who spoke for all of the directors. Then Ned King, the first president of the club, made a pleasing address and was followed by Walter H. Robinson and George W. Akers, also past presidents, who made telling talks. L. C. Gabbert, also a retired president, when he arose to speak on that line was granted the privilege of having his remarks printed. Judge John W. Muir closed the session with an earnest plea for united work, after which a Dutch lunch was enjoyed in the refreshment rooms.

GROWNEY TO RUN

Will Make the Race for the Democratic Nomination of Judge of the Third Division

James C. Growney, the well-known attorney, has announced his candidacy for the nomination for judge of the Third division of circuit court of this county, subject to the decision of the Democratic primary next August. He states that he will make an active campaign for the desired position.

Mr. Growney has been successfully practicing law here for some years and has a wide circle of acquaintances. He is a former resident of Maryville, where he practiced law prior to coming here, his object in coming to St. Joseph being to broaden his field. He belongs to one of the old families of Nodaway county, and is a most excellent citizen.

A REAL HOG STORY

A Hoggy Hog Who Lived Ninety-Nine Days Without Feed Or Water

A story which has been going the rounds of the press for some weeks past, relative to a hog being taken from under a strawstack where it had existed alive for three weeks without feed and water, is discounted by James H. Hampton, now of this city, but formerly of Hallowell, this county, where he conducted a store for a number of years. Hampton is known to every resident of the south part of the county and to most of the people of St. Joseph—and more, he has Theodore Riley of this city, who is now here, to substantiate his story. Says Hampton:

"About 1882, when I was in business at Hallowell, Bill Galbraith operated a wet goods emporium on the corner opposite my store. The building stood on posts, but when winter came on Bill put in a stone wall in place of the posts, but left an opening at one end of the wall large enough for a moderate sized animal to crawl through, which he later closed up."

"That fall one of Hank Foster's hogs turned up missing, and as it was a 300-pounder, considerable search was made, but to no effect. The next spring, strange noises were heard under the floor of Bill Galbraith's third parlor, and the old folks decided that they were 'bearing things,' and all of the colored trade left for parts unknown, thinking the place was 'haunted.' Old Bill did not like to see all of the trade disappear, so one day he and a few unpickled spirits tore

(Continued on Page Eight)

St. Louis Selected Through the Aid of Clark and Stone as Convention City Next Year

The next president of the United States—who is the present incumbent—will be nominated in Missouri, at St. Louis next June, the convention opening on June 14, 1916.

The Democratic National committee met at Washington Tuesday, and there were three cities, St. Louis, Dallas and Chicago, in the field for the great event. St. Louis won on the second ballot, after Senator Stone, Champ Clark and others had sounded its praises. Champ Clark, who was given an ovation when he rose, in making the deciding speech said:

"If I had my way about it," said the speaker, somewhat reflectively, "there never would be another convention, but in its stead we would have presidential primaries. Furthermore, I think every national convention should be in a hall commodating not more than 3,000 persons, 1,000 delegates, 1,000 alternates and 1,000 newspaper men. That's enough."

"Now I believe in playing the game with the cards above the table. Do you want the eighteen electoral votes of Missouri, or don't you? If you want them, send the convention to St. Louis. Senator Lewis, with that wonderfully expansive imagination of his, has pictured Chicago as the hub of several doubtful states. The states he mentioned as doubtful are about as reliably Republican as Vermont."

"Missouri, on the other hand, always has been the Democratic stronghold of the north. But recently the Republicans of Illinois and Iowa have been moving into Missouri and the Republican vote is increasing. A lot of our good Democrats in Missouri have been moving to Texas and Oklahoma, to help build up those states. But the Republicans on the Missouri don't move out. The colored brother stays with us. He stays and propagates, and he propagates fluently."

To show how the committeemen felt and as they reflected the sentiments and feelings of their constituents, it is but necessary to reproduce the resolution unanimously passed by a rising vote endorsing the Wilson administration and the Democratic members of the senate and house who have aided the president to carry forward his policies. It says:

"We congratulate the country on the splendid administration of Woodrow Wilson. Under the most trying circumstances in our history he has steadily worked for the cause of peace, and has avoided war, without yielding on well recognized principles of international law, justice and humanity. He has vindicated the rights of neutrals on the sea, he has upheld the best traditions of his high office and has discharged his trust with such signal fidelity, firmness and efficiency, that he has won the confidence and affection of the American people regardless of political affiliation. His masterly handling of both national and international questions demands his re-nomination and re-election as the trusted leader of the national democracy in 1916."

"We heartily commend the efficient service of those distinguished senators and representatives in congress, who have tirelessly and successfully endeavored to assist the president in the work of his administration."

BOONVILLE AND LAFAYETTE STAY "WET"

The "wet" side seems to have been in the ascendancy this week, for there have been two fiercely contested elections in the past seven days, both of which resulted disastrously to the "dry" forces.

At Boonville last Saturday that place went "wet" by 225 majority, and Lafayette county, which voted as a unit Thursday, went "wet" by a majority of about 50, the official count being necessary to determine the exact figures.

WILSON, OF COURSE

The Members of the National Democratic Committee Unanimously For the President

That President Wilson will be re-nominated—and, of course, elected—goes without saying, but just to give added emphasis it might not be out of place to read this Washington dispatch, sent out Tuesday, regarding the meeting of the National Democratic committee. It says:

Washington, Dec. 6.—If anyone had any last lingering doubts as to whether Woodrow Wilson would be the Democratic nominee for the presidency in 1916, those last lingering doubts would vanish after a half hour's mulling with the Democratic hosts who are gathering here for the meeting of the national committee.

(Continued on Page Eight)

TAVENNER CALLS LEAGUE'S BLUFF

Counters To Its Threat To Sue Him With Challenge To Fight In Open

WILL STAND FOR NO INTIMIDATION

He Shows Where Officers and Members Of the Navy League Were Not Only Contributors To Funds Used To Promote the Propaganda Of a Larger Navy, But That Many Of Them Are Directly Or Indirectly Connected With the Plants That Manufacture and Equip the Army and Navy of the United States

With all of the war talk going on and with the question now up before congress as to preparedness and the amount of money which the taxpayers will be called upon to contribute to bring about the desired result, it is not out of place to take note of the fact that a great deal of this war talk comes from men and interests that will benefit tremendously financially by a vast expenditure of money taken from the people, and in many cases these guardians of our national life are men who own the big institutions that turn out the war material at a vastly higher figure than it could be produced if it were manufactured by the government.

Congressman Clyde Tavenner was a thorn in the side of these gentry at the last winter session of congress, and he does not propose to keep quiet this time, no matter if the president of the Navy League did try to intimidate him by a suit. Before he was elected to congress, Tavenner was connected with the press at Washington, and being a clear observer, knows whereof he speaks.

On last Friday, after his receipt of the letter from Col. Robert M. Thompson, president of the Navy League, wherein it was proposed to bring suit against him if he did not subside, Tavenner "took his pen in hand" and after dipping it liberally in red ink, indited a letter to Colonel Thompson which should be read by every citizen and taxpayer in the United States. He said:

States the Purpose
Colonel Robert M. Thompson,
President Navy League,
Washington, D. C.

"My dear Colonel—I assume from your letter of the 20th ult., and from your various utterances as president of the Navy League, that the impression you desire to create in the minds of the American people is that none of the men who founded, or who have been, or are now, directors of or contributors to the Navy League, have ever been, or are now, in any manner interested in any concern which would profit financially from the \$500,000,000 bond issue for battleships, etc., which you are advocating."

"I understand your position to be that none of the money which the Navy League has used to banquet members of congress and secretaries of the navy or to carry on the propaganda for the vastly increased naval appropriations which you advocate, has come from any gentlemen who stand in profit therefrom. I contend that the opposite is true."

"In your letter you request that I give you some specific information."

Names the Men

"I call your attention to the fact that Elbert H. Gary, who is described in the Directory of Directors for 1914 as 'Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the United States Steel Corporation,' contributed \$1,000 on June 18, 1915, and that on the same date representatives of the J. F. Morgan estate subscribed \$2,000."

"I call your attention to the fact that J. F. Morgan, who is a director of the United States Steel Corporation; was formerly treasurer of the Navy League and is now a director of law, Herbert L. Basterlee, was one of the incorporators of the league, and is at the present time the general counsel of the league. I also note that Edward T. Stotesbury, a member of the firm of J. F. Morgan & Co., and a director of the Baldwin Locomotive works, Cambria Steel company, Phoenix Iron company, Riverside Metal

(Continued on Page Eight)

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY

The "Pagant Celebration of the Platte Purchase" Committee is Meeting With Encouragement

The committee of the Woman's club, of which Mrs. Frankie Hill is chairman, which has in its hands the arrangements for the proposed Pagant Celebration of the Platte Purchase, to occur next year, is hard at work and is meeting with success in its campaign of publicity. The committee has recently sent out a large number of copies of the address of Mr. Charles K. Hoper, delivered before the Rotary club, which gave the purposes of the organization. On the reverse side of the address was the following letter from Chairman Hill, which is self-explanatory. It says:

The reverse side of this letter is self-explanatory. It presents a Bill of Rights originating with a Women's club whose habitat is in the very shadows of "the sacred councils hills," and only a short walk from the spot the ancient Indians named the "Gate of Paradise." The idea has been endorsed by the largest and most representative clubs of this city, as well as by many of our most progressive men and women.

And it is just because the idea belongs to all of us—the whole Platte Purchase—that we are taking the initiative and are inviting our neighbors to join hands with us in an event which, by all known precedents, will give the Platte Purchase and its many opportunities the publicity it should have had for many years, and at the same time stimulate a just pride, and unify a people who are quite as worthy, talented and enterprising as any on earth.

Your club is invited to appoint a committee of not more than three to meet in St. Joseph (at a date to be determined later) for the purpose of perfecting an organization.

Kindly advise the undersigned promptly of your action in the matter, giving the names and addresses of the members of your committee. If appointed, we would also like to hear from you or other members of your club, and would be glad if you would extend this invitation, on our behalf, to other worthy organizations—religious, cultural, fraternal, educational, etc.

Please keep in mind that it is all by the people and for the people of the Platte Purchase.

COMMITTEE OF INVITATION.
By Mrs. Frankie Hill, Chairman,
909 Prospect Avenue.

CHRISTMAS TRADE IS ON

The Streets Are Crowded With Shoppers and the Stores Respondent With Holiday Offerings

The Christmas windows are in evidence all over St. Joseph. The stores are ablaze with holiday colors, and at night with light. Holiday offerings of all sorts, many of them from Home Kris Kringleland, meet the gaze of the shoppers at every turn.

The toys, too, are out in force now. Early shoppers are to be seen more this year than in previous years. The last week of Christmas trading with its crowds will not lessen the brightness of the holiday season for those who are buying these days before the rush is on.

St. Joseph has a large variety of things to offer this year for the holiday trade. Everything is to be found in the retail shops, from toys to expensive jewelry. The local dealers have in particular large stocks to select from this season.

It will be soon time now for the butchers to begin displaying their fancy carved beef and mutton and pork. Workmen at the packing houses with a knack for fancy designing are whetting up their knives for the holiday designs.

JENKINS BIDS FOR MORRIS YOUNG DEBATE

The Honorable Young of Buchanan county has challenged the Honorable Charley Morris, editor of the St. Joseph Gazette, to a public discussion on the signs of the times. It may not be any of our business when or where this debate will be pulled off, yet, as both are gentlemen and are friends of ours, we extend them a cordial welcome to have their chautauquas at Platte City. We promise them the free use of the court house and an enthusiastic meeting at both the afternoon and evening performances. Gentlemen, we are yours to command—Platte County Landmark.

STONE BEGINS THIRD TERM

When the senate convened at Washington, Monday, Senator William Joel Stone of Missouri was sworn in for his third term. Missouri's great senator received an ovation as he was escorted down the aisle to the desk. He wore a small rose in the lapel of his coat, the gift of his daughter.